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# THE MORNING NEWS

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## PetroChina apparently pushing for a quick conclusion!

ORANJESTAD -- Last Sunday, another important meeting was held between PetroChina and the government of Aruba. According to the Prime Minister that meeting was the conclusion of the first phase of the dialogue with PetroChina. After carefully scrutinizing the Valero Refinery, PetroChina has reached the conclusion that they want to continue deliberation to ascertain whether they can reach a final agreement. The agreement entails two different aspects. One is with PetroChina and Valero, and the other is between PetroChina and the government of Aruba. Reportedly,



both aspects are progressing positively.

According to the government, PetroChina is pushing for a quick conclusion. For this reason, they are committed to an interchange of documentation during the next weeks ahead. This is in an effort to address all the issues on which agreements must be made and at the same time to concure with Valero. The government stated that..."we are very optimistic that there is the opportunity for a durable solution for the problem of the refinery for an extended period."

PetroChina is the largest oil refinery in the world. They are interested in establishing a strategic point of interest in this region. According to the Prime Minister, contrary to

what some are saying, they are not interested in bringing any large group of persons to work in Aruba to operate and maintain the refinery. They seem to have great respect for what they have seen of the local management, and are impressed with the expertise and responsibility of the management team here under the leadership of Ray Buckley.

This, according to the Prime Minister, gives us much comfortability, because, if we succeed in reaching an agreement in a positive manner, this could mean the continuity of the work of our Aruban teams. This refers to the locals who are currently managing the refinery as well as to bring back those companies that were maintaining the company.

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## Three new commemorative ensembles available from PostAruba

PostAruba has issued three special commemorative stamps for 2012, which are now available at the Philately Desk at their main branch in Oranjestad, as well as their branch office in the Palm Beach Plaza shopping mall.

The first issue of the year came out on January 19, titled "Eagles," with original art by noted Aruban artist Elvis Tromp, value: 10 Aruban florins (\$5.70). The second issue was on February 21 from the Aruban Fauna series featuring Goats, by Edith van der Waal, value: 4 Aruban florins (\$2.20). The final ensemble was issued on April 5, a collection by artist Rudberth Wolffe, which is a



Olympics commemorative stamps



commemorative envelope for summer games

tribute to the upcoming 2012 Olympic Games to take place in London, England. They

have a value of 5 Aruban florins (\$2.75) each and are only available in a set of 4.

Coming up on May 15 will be part of the Marine Series; this is a set of stamps featuring the work of Angiolina Henriquez, who is also head of the Aruba Marine Mammal Foundation. Her special issue "Whales," has a value of 10 Aruban florins (\$5.70). First day issue ensembles also include a coordinated envelope and cancellation stamp.

PostAruba still has a number of the striking stamps created by island artists from the past few years; they are also offered in money saving packets for collectors. All are invited to visit the Philately desks to view this lovely and unique souvenirs of Aruba. They can also be ordered via e-mail; for local orders contact: philatelic@postaruba.com and for international orders contact: ipa747@yahoo.com

Stamp collectors can keep up with the current special issues by visiting the Post-Aruba website: <http://www.postaruba.com>.

by Rosalie Klein

## Work on the lot behind Oranjestad bus station started yesterday

ORANJESTAD – The Department of Public Works – DOW – reminds motorists who use the parking lot behind the bus station in Oranjestad that as of Wednesday, May 2, 2012 the department began the construction of rails for the streetcar to the main street in town.

The construction works will be from the entrance of

said parking lot to the Weststraat resulting in closure of the adjacent streets. The construction will last 7 working days and there will be traffic signs and barricades to advise motorists.

Dow asks for anyone's patience and understanding and apologizes for any inconvenience this may cause.

## Labour MPs to minister: Scrap burqa, dual nationality bans

THE HAGUE -- Labour MPs yesterday urged Home Affairs Minister Liesbeth Spies to act according to her convictions and formally scrap draft legislation to ban the burqa and eradicate dual nationality.

Spies said in an interview with the Volkskrant newspaper earlier both issues are no longer priorities but plans to leave it up to parliament to decide what to do.

Spies, who is campaigning for the Christian Democratic party leadership, said: 'Parliament wants to bin the dual nationality plans. And I would not shed a tear if that happened to the burqa ban ei-

ther'.

The coalition alliance collapsed last month when Geert Wilders, leader of the anti-Islam PVV, pulled out after disagreeing with austerity measures. The dual nationality and burqa bans were PVV policies.

Until now Spies has defended the policies, describing the proposed ban on the face-covering Islamic government in January as 'of very great importance' to ensure open communication. She also rejected criticism of the dual nationality proposals from the Council of State, the government's most senior advisory body.



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## Harley Davidson International Female Ride Day Set for May 4



**Karen Davidson**

ORANJESTAD - Harley-Davidson honors women riders across the globe this May by inviting them to join

with motorcycling" has grown into a worldwide event, founded by MO-TORESS in Toronto, Canada,

Women Riders Month events. During the month of May, hundreds of women riders from Latin America to the Caribbean will join thousands of other women in countries around the world to showcase their passion for the sport of motorcycling during the 6th Annual International Female Ride Day. What began in 2007 with a simple concept of "connecting women

inviting women riders around the world to "just ride," an idea that is passionately supported by industry leader Harley-Davidson.

In celebration of this initiative, Aruba will be hosting their 3rd Annual Ladies of Harley Ride from May 4th to May 6th, consisting of a Garage Party at the dealership on May 4th, 2012 from 7 pm to 9 pm, night ride on May 5th to Moomba Beach with live music by Dushi Band and daytime ride May 6th with DJ entertainment, food, drinks and prizes to announce the new Ladies of Harley Queen of 2012. Last year's event was very successful, inspiring many women to join the motorcycle world. This year, it promises to be even more successful as Karen Davidson, creative director for Harley-Davidson General



Merchandise and Great-Granddaughter of Co-Founder William Davidson, will be in attendance.

"Women don't want to just go along for the ride," said Claudia Garber, Director of Women's Marketing Outreach at Harley-Davidson Motor Company. "Women want to

feel empowered. They want their voices to be heard."

Women Riders Month is an opportunity to celebrate the empowerment of women riders around the world and inspire more women to find their voice on a Harley-Davidson of their own.

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## JCI Dutch Caribbean traveling to Curitiba, Brazil to participate in the annual JCI conference of the Americas

WILLEMSTAD -- JCI Dutch Caribbean consists of 6 local organizations on the islands of Aruba, Curacao and St. Maarten. Last year the conference took place in Curacao. As part of its 50 year existence, JCI Willemstad organized a successful conference attended by approximately 600 participants from different countries from North, Central and South America.

This year it is the turn for Brazil to host the conference and 24 members of JCI Dutch Caribbean will travel to Curitiba. Curitiba is one of the most developed cities of Brazil, very well known for the infrastructure and transportation developments. It is expected that approximately 1000 people will participate to

this conference.

JCI Dutch Caribbean President Iyo Rosa will head the delegation and among the delegation members there will be traveling also Magali Lourens who will represent JCI Dutch Caribbean during the "Speaking Competition". The topic this year is the contribution of education to sustainable development of a country. Also, a team of 3 members consisting of Nathaly Cannegieter, Marvin Sambo and Milagros Navarro Rodrigues will participate in a debate tournament in the English debating pool. During the conferences National presidents will meet and discuss business at hand, members will have the opportunity to attend several trainings and discuss global issues in fo-



ums. For the first time on a Conference, JCI Members will have the opportunity to participate with their ideas and opinions in the discussion forum about the G20 deci-

sions.

At the JCI Conference of the Americas, attendees will participate in the project "JCI Active Citizens in Action." The project will take place in a community of Curitiba called Villa Torres (Tower Village) with a population of about 8,000 people. Delegates will visit the Villa and work on eight different activities, each representing one of the UN MDGs.

**The activities include:**

- \* Helping residents improve their food production on a

local farm,

- \* Cleaning and painting a school,
- \* Promoting and providing mammogram exams,
- \* Promoting the benefits of childhood immunizations,
- \* Distributing materials related to health for pregnant women,
- \* Cleaning the surroundings of the Villa and discussing proper personal hygiene,
- \* Planting trees near the Villa's river and
- \* Educating the children of the Villa about Latin Culture

JCI Dutch Caribbean asks the community to follow them on Facebook and show some support for the community leaders who will represent them abroad.

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## Don't miss the Carubbian Festival this coming Thursday



**SAN NICOLAS** -- Every Thursday evening, islanders flock to San Nicolas to enjoy the fabulous bargains and entertainment of the Carubbian Festival, a mix of Aruban and Caribbean traditions kept alive by the multi-cultural make up of Aruba's "Sunrise City."

Originally populated by the thousands that came from all over the Caribbean to work at the refinery, the town has savored and preserved the food, music and dance that many brought with them from their various regions. The festival, from 6:00 to 9:15 p.m., revels in the diverse background of San Nicolas, offering unique dishes and beverages, along with a full evening of island entertainment.

This week, organ grinder 'Nos Cultura' specializing in folkloric music opens the show, followed by "2 Sweet Band." A full roster of some of Aruba's finest criollo entertainers follows including dance groups 'Masiduri' and 'The Super Dancers,' soloist "Valentino King," limbo dance by "Miguel Philips" and Carnival show by Carna-Aruba, and this is only on the main stage!

Scattered throughout the main street of San Nicolas are performance areas surround by seating where you can settle in with an island snack or dinner, including music by steel pan man "Angel Hazel," and "TBS Brassband."

Island visitors can enjoy the Carubbian festival as part of a complete package available at all De Palm and concierge desks, which include transportation. You can customize your evening by purchasing with or without food and refreshments. A variety of local handicrafts are offered for sale and the event guarantees a good time for all, with an authentic introduction to the island experience.



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## Wilders wants Netherlands out of EU

**NEW YORK** -- Freedom Party leader Geert Wilders thinks the Netherlands should leave the European Union. He has advocated leaving the eurozone before, which comes down to the same thing - as countries that drop the euro cannot remain a member of the European Union.

Speaking in New York where he is promoting his book *Marked for Death*, he

said: "We can become a member of the European Economic Area (EEA) like Norway or of the European Trade Association (ETA) like Switzerland so that we keep the economic advantage. By no longer being a member of the EU and the eurozone, we determine our own rules, like who comes into the country, immigration and have our own currency."

His words come as the

Netherlands prepares for a parliamentary election on 12 September, after he withdrew his party's parliamentary support for the minority VVD-Christian Democrat government just over a week ago. This led to the fall of the Dutch government after seven weeks of negotiations in which the three parties failed to agree on new austerity measures. The minority coalition need the Freedom

Party support in parliament to pass legislation.

National sovereignty is set to be the main theme of his campaign. "Without it we cannot defend our identity and fight against Islamisation," he said.

Earlier on Tuesday, Mr Wilders dismissed rumours that he is planning to leave the Netherlands to live in the United States.



**Thursdays**

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## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### UN gives Sudan, South Sudan ultimatum to halt hostilities

UNITED NATIONS (AFP) - The UN Security Council yesterday ordered arch-rivals Sudan and South Sudan to halt hostilities in 48 hours or face possible sanctions.

With China and Russia joining the growing calls for a stop to the growing border conflict, the 15-member council unanimously passed a resolution giving diplomatic muscle to African Union efforts to halt violence and get peace negotiations started.

Russia and China had opposed talk of sanctions during negotiations on the US-drafted resolution and said they only reluctantly voted yes.

Resolution 2046 calls on the neighbors to "immediately cease all hostilities" and withdraw troops to their own territory. The two must give a written commitment to halt fighting within 48 hours to the African Union and the Security Council.

The council ordered the two sides to start African Union-mediated peace talks within two weeks. The resolution threatens "additional measures" under Article 41 of the UN Charter -- which allows for non-military sanctions -- if either side fails.

Warning of a looming "full scale and sustained war," US ambassador Susan Rice told the council "both countries are on the brink of returning to the horrors of the past and threaten to take the entire region with them."

While still one country, north and south Sudan fought a two-decade civil war up to 2005 in which more than two million people died.

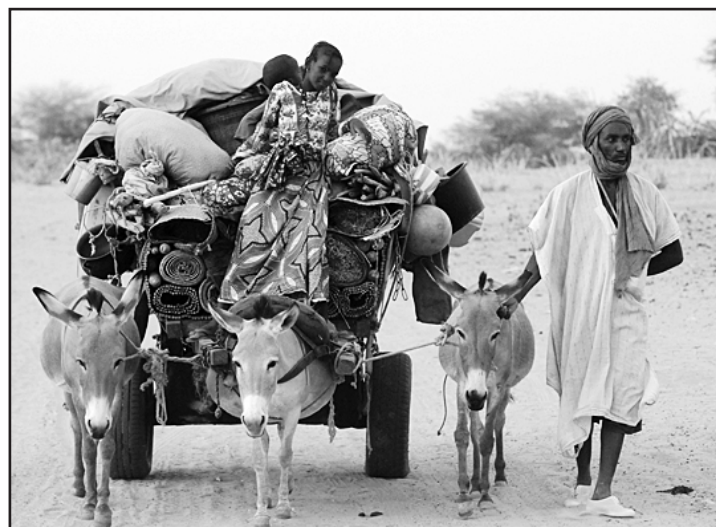
South Sudan's Minister for Cabinet Affairs Deng Alor Kuol offered his country's "solemn commitment" to follow the resolution. But he appealed to the United Nations to "urgently mobilize humanitarian assistance for the population affected by Sudan's continuous aerial bombardments and ground incursions" into the South.

Sudan's UN ambassador Daffa-Alla Elhag Ali Osman expressed reservations about the resolution, however.

"Peace between the two republics, Sudan and South Sudan, will only be achieved by halting all forms of support and sheltering proxy rebel and armed groups espoused by South Sudan," Osman told the council.

Tensions have quickly risen since the split between the two nations in July last year -- with no border agreed nor an accord on how to share revenue from oil reserves which straddle the two sides. South Sudan's forces only recently withdrew from the disputed oil town of Heglig after UN warnings.

### West African bloc to hold summit on G.Bissau, Mali



**MAURITANIA, Bassiknou --** AFP photo shows Ibrahim Boubakr (R), a Malian refugee, arriving with family members to the M'bere refugee camp near Bassiknou in the Nema region of Southwestern Mauritania on May 2, 2012. More than 320,000 people have fled their homes in Mali since mid-January, with more than half seeking refuge in neighbouring countries, UN officials said. West African bloc ECOWAS said yesterday it will hold another special summit in Dakar on Thursday on the political crises in Guinea Bissau and Mali. Thursday's summit will, among other, look at the situation in Mali, where tensions run high after a failed counter-coup by forces loyal to ousted president Amadou Toumani Toure.

### Gingrich drops US presidential bid

ARLINGTON (AFP) - Former House speaker Newt Gingrich yesterday dropped his erratic campaign for the 2012 Republican presidential nomination, but pledged to remain in the public eye as an "active citizen."

His exit leaves only Ron Paul, a Texas congressman who represents the libertarian wing of the party, in the race against the almost certain nominee Mitt Romney.

### US criticizes Venezuelan threat to leave rights panel

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The United States said yesterday it would be "deeply regrettable" if Venezuela were to withdraw from the Inter-American Human Rights Commission as it has threatened to do.

Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez said Monday that Caracas should pull out of the body of the Washington-based Organization of American States (OAS), which he charged was being used by the United States against his country.

"It would be deeply regrettable if Venezuela would decide to walk away from the Inter-American Commission

on Human Rights (IACHR)," State Department deputy spokesman Mark Toner told reporters.

Washington considered the body to be "an effective and unique organization within the hemisphere" as OAS member nations have "made a commitment to promote and protect human rights," he said.

Venezuela's withdrawal from the body would "send a bad signal," he added.

Caracas has threatened repeatedly to pull out of the rights body.

Chavez, an elected leftist ex-paratrooper, is a fierce critic of the United States. The

United States and Venezuela have had tense ties for years and since 2010, they have not had ambassadors in place in the other's capital.

In its 2011 report, the commission again cited Venezuela as a country -- along with Colombia, Cuba and Honduras -- where the exercise of fundamental rights was compromised. Caracas has been on the black list since 2002.

Since that year, Venezuela has refused to allow IACHR staff to visit the country because the OAS recognized the de facto government which ousted him from power, for 48 hours, in April 2002.

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## International News

### China activist leaves US embassy after deal with Beijing



Zeng Jinyan, wife of the dissident activist Hu Jia, who met with Chen after his dramatic flight from house arrest, also claimed that Chen "did not want to leave the embassy", citing the wife of the blind campaigner.

Chen, who riled Chinese authorities by exposing forced abortions and sterilisations under the "one-child" policy, fled house arrest on April 22 and sought refuge in the US embassy, where he demanded assurances on his freedom.

BEIJING (AFP) - Chinese activist Chen Guangcheng Wednesday "reluctantly" left the US embassy where he had sought protection after fleeing house arrest, following a deal with Beijing, a US-based rights group said.

China Aid said it had been told by "reliable sources" that Beijing had made threats against relatives of the legal campaigner.

This came despite US officials saying hours after US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton arrived in China for pre-arranged talks that Beijing had pledged Chen and his family would be treated "humanely" and moved to a safe place.

Victoria Nuland, State Department spokeswoman, denied threats were made, but said Chinese officials made clear Chen's family would be returned to their home in the eastern province of Shandong -- where they suffered repeated abuse -- if he remained at the embassy.

China Aid said in a statement: "Chen's decision for departure from the US embassy was done reluctantly because 'serious threat to his immediate family members were made by Chinese government' if Chen refuses to accept the Chinese government's offer."

"We are deeply concerned about this sad development if the reports about Chen's involuntary departure (from US embassy) is true," added the group, run by the exiled Chinese activist Bob Fu, who has been in close touch with Chen and his supporters.

In a video address to Premier Wen Jiabao released after his dramatic escape, the blind activist alleged he and his wife and young child had suffered repeated abuses at the hands of local officials in his hometown in northern China.

Clinton said the United States remained "committed" to the 40-year-old legal campaigner, whose treatment she has repeatedly criticised in the past.

"Mr. Chen has a number of understandings with the Chinese government about his future, including the opportunity to pursue higher education in a safe environment. Making these commitments a reality is the next crucial task," she said in a statement.

"The United States government and the American people are committed to remaining engaged with Mr. Chen and his family in the days, weeks and years ahead."

But responding to a question on Clinton's statement, China's foreign ministry spokesman Liu Weimin said: "What the US needs to do is to stop misleading the public and stop making every excuse to shift responsibility and conceal its own wrongdoing."

He said the US should not "interfere" in China's domestic affairs and urged it to "take necessary measures to prevent a similar incident".

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### Number of Palestinians on hunger strike hits 1,550

JERUSALEM (AFP) - At least 1,550 Palestinians in Israeli jails are now taking part in a mass hunger strike, Israel's Prison Service said on Wednesday, with two of them marking their 64th day without food.

IPS spokeswoman Sivan Weizman told AFP another 100 prisoners had begun refusing food in the past two days, swelling the number of those on hunger strike to 1,550 -- or more than a third of the total Palestinian prison population of 4,700.

On today's morning, the Israeli Supreme Court was to hear an appeal against their being held in administrative detention, a procedure under which suspects can be held without charge for renewable periods of up to six months at a time.

Jawad Boulos, legal advisor to the Palestinian Prisoners' Club, who visited prisoner Diab on Wednesday, said he

was shackled to his hospital bed and watched over by four security guards.

Diab was refusing to deal with the doctors until they removed his shackles and he told the guards: "The more cruel you become, the more insistent I become on my position and belief that my freedom is the most precious thing in life," Boulos said.

A PHR doctor who examined Diab on Monday found he was suffering from stomach pains, with indications he could be suffering from internal bleeding.

She also said another prisoner Halahla was in urgent need of a CAT scan.

Khatib, who is also representing Halahla, tried to visit him at Ramle prison infirmary on Wednesday but was refused permission, he told AFP.

The vast majority of prisoners began refusing food on April 17 in a demand for im-

proved conditions, including increased access to lawyers and family visits, an end to solitary confinement and an end to administrative detention.

Weizman said a prison commission was examining the issue of conditions inside jail, but gave no date for when its recommendations would be submitted. The commission had begun its work before the start of the mass hunger strike.

Human Rights Watch on Wednesday said Israel "should immediately charge or release people jailed without charge or trial under so-called administrative detention."

Meanwhile, about 250 Palestinian students on Wednesday demonstrated outside Ofer military prison near the West Bank city of Ramallah, with some throwing stones at Israeli troops who responded with tear gas and rubber bullets, a military spokeswoman told AFP.



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## Health & Living

### No evidence that mobile phones harm health: study

(AFP) - There is no convincing evidence that the use of mobile phones damages human health, a "comprehensive" review of scientific evidence said last week.

Studies have not demonstrated that the use of mobiles causes brain tumours or any other cancer, according to the review by the Health Protection Agency (HPA)'s independent advisory group on non-ionising radiation.

But it said it was important to monitor evidence as the use of mobile phones has become widespread only recently.

The HPA also recommends that excessive use of mobile phones by children be discouraged.

"Overall, the results of studies have not demonstrated that the use of mobile phones causes brain tumours or any other type of cancer," the group said.

"The evidence suggests that radio frequency field exposure below guideline levels does not cause symptoms in humans."

The group's report reviewed scientific studies on exposure to radio frequency electromagnetic fields produced by mobile phones and wireless devices, such as wi-fi, as well as television and radio transmitters.

It said the presence of radio frequency fields cannot be detected by people, including those who report being sensitive to them.

And it added that research on long-term effects was limited but there was no evidence as yet of negative health effects.

Anthony Swerdlow, chairman of the advisory group that conducted the review, said: "There is no convincing evidence that radiofrequency exposure causes health effects in adults or in children but beyond 15 years for mobile phones, we have to say we have little or no information."

"I think it is important therefore, to some extent, to keep an eye out on this, which we will do into the future."

The HPA said in response that it would continue to advise a precautionary approach and keep the science under close review.

## Simple device can help babies with tragic heart flaw

(AFP) - A cheap, simple device widely used to monitor blood oxygen can help save newborn babies with congenital heart defects, a study in The Lancet determined on Wednesday.

Congenital heart flaws account for between three and 7.5 percent of all infant deaths, but surgery greatly improves the chances of survival, especially if the problem is detected at the earliest stages.

Doctors led by Shakila Thangaratinam of Queen Mary University of London looked at published research into pulse oximetry, in which a small

monitor is placed on the fingertip or toe to check levels of oxygen in arterial haemoglobin.

It works by comparing the differences in red light, which is absorbed by oxygenated blood and infrared light, which is absorbed by deoxygenated blood.

Oxygenation levels are given instantly, in a digital display.

Thirteen studies covering nearly 230,000 newborn babies were included in the trawl.

Pulse oximetry detected 76.6 percent of congenital heart de-

fects and had a rate of just 0.14 percent of "false positives," a term meaning the times when the device wrongly signalled a problem when in fact the infant was healthy.

The risk of a "false positive" was even lower when the baby was tested more than a day after birth, rather than within the first 24 hours, the paper said.

Pulse oximetry is a useful, non-invasive early warning test for babies who do not have obvious symptoms of cardiac problems, say the researchers.

Infants that are spotted as

being at risk can then be diagnosed by echocardiography and, if need be, treated by surgery.

Pulse oximetry for newborns is an issue that has been hotly debated in medical circles, with some experts saying its reliability is unproven. United States is the only country to use it as a routine screening tool.

But the new study says the evidence is now emphatic, as pulse oximetry has been tested on more than a quarter of million infants, 100,000 more than in 2009 when the last review took place.



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## Sci-Tech

### Hackers pick Google's pocket with Mac virus



(AFP) - A virus infecting Macintosh computers is picking Google's pocket by hijacking advertising "clicks," tallying as much as \$10,000 daily, according to Internet security firm Symantec.

A component of the widespread Flashback virus targets Google search queries made using Chrome, Safari, or Firefox browsers and directs people to pages dictated by the hackers, Symantec said Tuesday in a blog post.

Those clicking online ads can be re-routed to websites of

different merchants or publishers, with hackers getting paid the eight cents or so that would have been paid to Google for the referral, analysis of the virus showed.

"Google never receives the intended ad click," Symantec researchers said.

"This ultimately results in lost revenue for Google and untold sums of money for the Flashback gang."

Based on the hundreds of thousands of Macintosh computers believed to be infected with the Flashback virus, the

amount of money raked in by hackers could climb to about \$10,000 daily, Symantec estimated.

Apple last month released a Macintosh software update with a tool to purge Flashback from computers.

"If the Flashback malware is found, a dialog will be presented notifying the user that malware was removed," California-based Apple said at a support website.

Apple has also said it has patched the weakness exploited by the virus and is working to disrupt the command network being used by hackers behind the infections.

The virus took advantage of a weakness in Java programs, according to Apple.

The malicious software does its dirty work with directions received from computer servers "hosted by malware authors" and Apple is collaborating with Internet service providers to "disable this command and control network."

Computer security specialists have warned that more than 600,000 Macintosh computers may have been infected with a virus targeting Apple machines.

Hackers tricked Mac users into downloading the virus by disguising it as an update to Adobe Flash video viewing software.

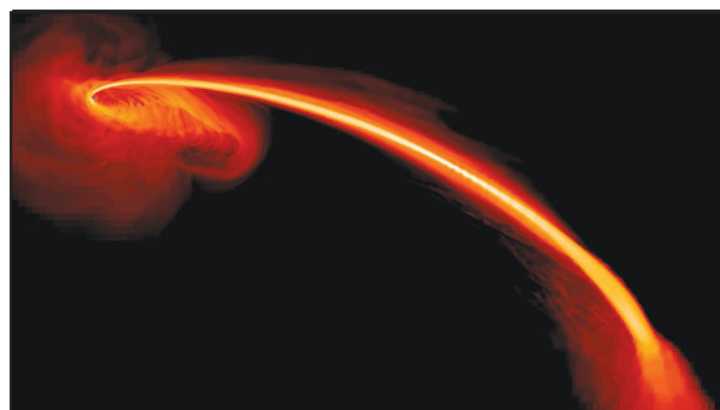
Flashback Trojan malware tailored to slip past "Mac" defenses is a variation on viruses typically aimed at personal computers (PCs) powered by Microsoft's Windows operating systems.

"All the stuff the bad guys have learned for doing attacks in the PC world is now starting to transition to the Mac world," McAfee Labs director of threat intelligence Dave Marcus told AFP.



**CALVI- France :** The MS Turanor PlanetSolar catamaran is seen at the Calvi's harbor, in the French Corsican island, on May 1, 2012, on his way to Monaco to complete its trip around the world on May 4. The 35m by 23m white catamaran has embarked on a world tour from Monaco since September 2010 to promote solar energy for pollution-free shipping. The Swiss-flagged boat, which was built in Germany and cost 26 million USD, is topped by 500 square metres of black solar panels, with a bright white cockpit sticking up in the centre.

AFP PHOTO



Handout photo from NASA released on May 2, 2012 shows a computer-simulated image showing gas from a tidally shredded star falling into a black hole. Some of the gas also is being ejected at high speeds into space. Astronomers observed a flare in ultraviolet and optical light from the gas falling into the black hole and glowing helium from the star's helium-rich gas expelled from the system.

AFP PHOTO / NASA

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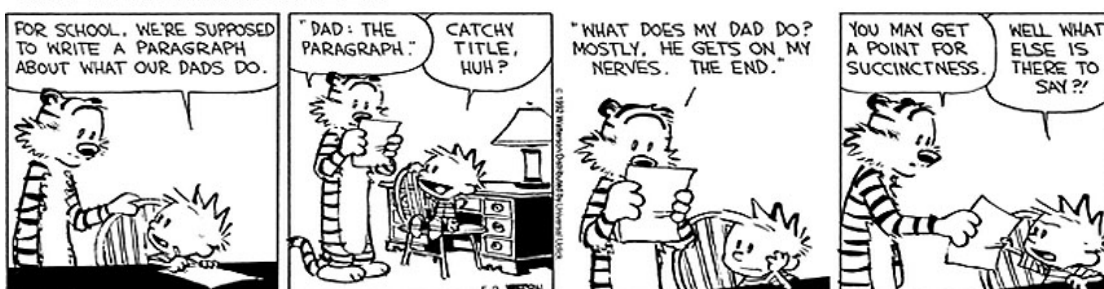
## PICKLES



## MOMMA



## CALVIN and HOBBS



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## ACROSS

1. Sportage manufacturer
4. Daddy
8. Shark feature
11. Switch positions
12. Angels' headwear
13. Birthday number
14. Nov. preceper
15. Lid color (2 wds.)
17. Slacks shade
19. Refinishing needs
20. Horned viper
22. Would-be driver's destination (abbr.)
23. Chirping sound
27. English noblemen
31. "Eureka!"
32. Address bk. line
34. Company exec (abbr.)
35. Bit of punctuation
38. Kangaroo or Hook
41. What a bar bouncer checks
43. Truth, in China
44. \_\_\_ offer (hyph.)
48. \_\_\_ eclipse
52. Large terriers
54. "\_\_\_ had enough!"
55. Ring verdict (abbr.)

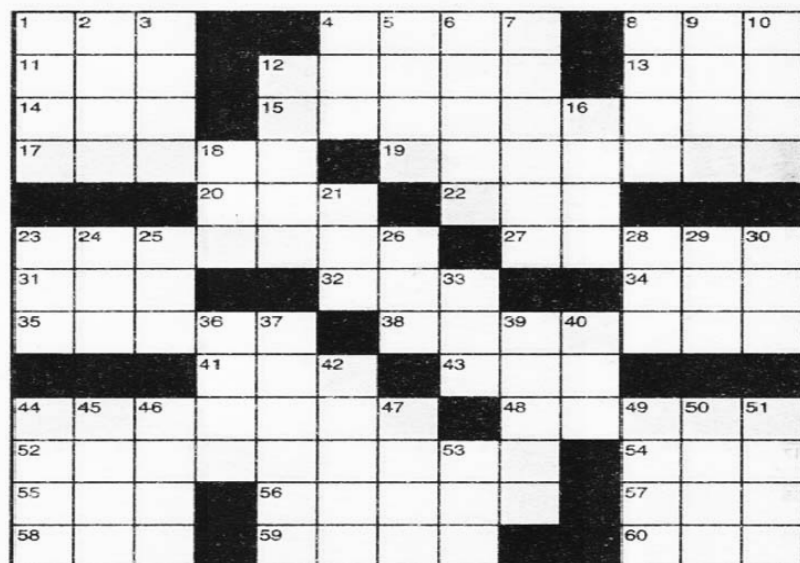
56. Rebel
57. Top soccer scorer
58. "\_\_\_ So Fine"
59. Fr. female saints
60. Mental telepathy (abbr.)

## DOWN

1. Eccentric sort
2. Crawl
3. "Thin Man" dog
4. Foot the bill
5. Tavern orders
6. Postured
7. "Ain't That \_\_\_" (2 wds.)

8. Lose vibrancy
9. Sikorsky or Stravinsky
10. Breaking stories
12. Robbery
16. Thomas \_\_\_ Edison
18. "Krazy" one of cartoons
21. Animal friend
23. Tic-\_\_\_ (breath mint)
24. "Guess \_\_\_?"
25. "\_\_\_ Woman" (2 wds.)
26. Family \_\_\_ room
28. Nipper's co.
29. Luau neckiace
30. Dad's

33. Map marking (abbr.)
36. Tiny creature
37. Reebok competitor
39. Obsolete
40. Exceedingly
42. Keen
44. Vow
45. Goddess of victory
46. Greek love god
47. "Night" author Wiesel
49. Small citrus fruit
50. Car rental company
51. Harvest
53. Snaky shape



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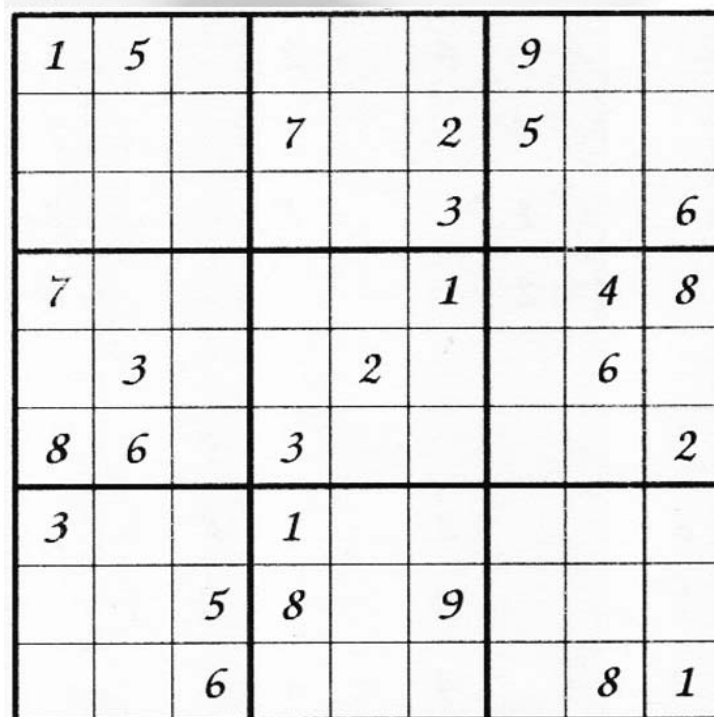
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POLICE HDQS  
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Sudoku




SOLUTION

1	8	7	5	2	9	6	3	4
5	2	9	6	8	3	1	7	4
2	5	1	4	6	7	9	8	3
6	9	4	8	3	1	5	2	7
8	7	5	1	9	2	6	4	3
9	1	8	5	6	4	3	7	2
7	5	2	1	4	6	8	9	3
4	2	6	7	8	9	5	1	3

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9  
A number is Never repeated in a row or column.  
In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9







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## RIM close to hiring marketing chief, stock slumps

ORLANDO - Research In Motion Ltd stock slumped again yesterday, even as the company said it was close to hiring a marketing boss to fashion a unified message for the next-generation BlackBerry that will likely determine its future.

Speaking at an annual showcase event that has fallen flat this year, RIM Chief Executive Thorsten Heins admitted RIM spoke with more than one voice when it marketed its current BlackBerry 7 smartphones and its PlayBook tablet. He said that would change.

The Canadian company is counting on its new BlackBerry 10 platform to reverse a deep erosion in its market share as consumers and professional customers alike flock to flashier devices made by Apple Inc or powered by

Google's Android.

"One thing that really became obvious when I looked at the various parts of the company is that we needed focus," Heins said at the BlackBerry World conference in Orlando, Florida. He took over from longtime co-CEOs Mike Lazaridis and Jim Balsillie earlier this year.

RIM stock had fallen almost 6 percent on Tuesday after the company gave investors a glimpse of its next-generation smartphones and the tools they would need to create apps for the gadgets.

But RIM has provided few details on how it plans to recover from its prolonged slump, and its shares were down another 5.3 percent by yesterday, extending a slide of more than 75 percent in the past 13 months.

## Finance

## Eurozone hits record jobless rate, fuels growth debate

BRUSSELS (AFP) - Eurozone unemployment spiked to a record 10.9 percent in March, piling pressure on governments yesterday to shift from austerity-first to growth policies so as to revive the economy.

The figures, up from 10.8 percent in February, coincided with a survey showing manufacturing in the 17-nation eurozone stumbling to near three-year low levels as spending cuts and tax rises push the

bloc towards recession.

Almost 17.37 million men and women, 169,000 more than in February, were out of work in March as the unemployment rate rose for the 11th month in a row, hitting a euro-era high, according to the Eurostat data agency.

The Markit Purchasing Managers' Index, a closely watched indicator, fell sharply to 45.9 from 47.7 in March, signalling contraction of the manufacturing sector for a

ninth month running.

"That the eurozone is in recession is not news but the fact that the 'level' of recession is not easing at all at the start of the spring is more than worrisome," said ODDO Securities analyst Bruno Cavalier.

With elections in France and bailed-out Greece on Sunday turning on what governments can do to restore growth as a way out of the eurozone debt crisis, analysts said the latest data highlights the challenge facing them.

The jobless and manufacturing figures "underline the enormity of the challenge facing policymakers to respond to the growing calls for growth across the region," Capital Economics said in a client note.

It pointed out that even though southern eurozone countries were worst affected - with Spain's jobless rate 24.1 percent according to Eurostat - there were signs of stronger states such as Germany coming under pressure too.

Europe's powerhouse had a jobless rate of 5.6 percent in March, they said, but a headline increase of 19,000 was only the second rise in 25 months.

## Monti: Italy can help Franco-German ties if Hollande wins

Rome (AFP) - Italy can help France and Germany find "a new equilibrium" if Socialist frontrunner Francois Hollande wins the French presidential election on Sunday, Prime Minister Mario Monti said yesterday.

"We have become more pressing and, I hope, more persuasive in a European context," Monti said at a debate with former World Bank economist Joseph Stiglitz in Rome hosted by a centre-left think tank.

"What could happen in France would be a very important factor. I think Italy has placed itself in a good position to help France and Germany

find a new equilibrium if it comes to that," he said.

Hollande has said it would be possible to renegotiate a eurozone fiscal pact to include growth measures despite the misgivings of German Chancellor Angela Merkel, who has stressed that the pact is not up for debate. Merkel is supporting Hollande's rival Nicolas Sarkozy in the election.

Italian daily La Repubblica this week reported on plans for the Italian and German parliaments to ratify the fiscal compact simultaneously in a symbolic gesture aimed at emphasising close ties between the two countries.



**Daily Exchange Rates**

Current as of: 05/02/2012

	Currency Code	Buying rate banknotes	Buying Cheques	Selling Rate
U.S.A.	USD	1.77	1.78	1.80
Dutch Antilles	ANG	98.00	100.00	100.20
Canada	CAD	1.78	1.80	1.82
Britain	GBP	2.81	2.86	2.92
Switzerland	CHF	194.46	195.18	195.98
Netherlands	EUR	231.75	233.87	236.22
Sweden	SEK	25.32	26.04	26.84
Denmark	DKK	30.48	31.20	32.00
Norway	NOK	30.00	30.72	31.52
Japan	JPY	220.07	222.08	224.31

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## YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer

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OLGA LOLL HIT  
ISM KILN  
PALMS SOARS  
ERASABLE ALEC  
CNN MEL DUO  
AIDA WILDWEST  
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## Cuban actors plot new life in America after defecting



HIALEAH, Florida (AFP) - Two Cuban actors who defected last week en route to the Tribeca Film Festival in New York are plotting a new life together in America and hope to pursue their acting careers.

"We'd love to go to Las Vegas, it's always caught my attention," Javier Nunez Florian told AFP in an interview alongside girlfriend Anailin de la Rua after emerging in Miami, days after their dramatic disappearance.

Immigration attorney Wilfredo Allen told AFP the couple will apply for political asylum in the United States within 10 days, and that they had a "very high chance" of getting their request approved.

"With our papers in hand, we hope to find whatever work is out there. If it's in acting,

great, but really I will do any work in order to get settled here," De La Rua said.

"So far, we've liked everything" about life in America, added Nunez.

"I like the way people live in Miami without having really lived there. Now we have to fight for our dream and if it turns out that we can head out to Las Vegas, that would be welcome."

While they await the necessary paperwork to being their new lives, the couple was sequestered in a hotel room in Hialeah, a city northwest of Miami that has a large number of Cuban expatriates.

"Then, we do not know where to go," De la Rua admitted.

The couple, both 20 years old, said they would likely stay

in Miami to start with as they have friends and family there in the Cuban community. Back home, they said, they have "no future."

The young lovers kept their plans secret even to their co-star Daniel Arrechaga in the Cuban film "One Night," which tells the story of three teenagers making the dangerous ocean passage from Cuba to Florida in a homemade raft -- a plot that drew comparisons with the decision the two actors later made.

The pair slipped away from their entourage during the flight's stopover in Miami last Wednesday.

They told AFP that they spoke to Arrechaga and director Lucy Mulloy on Saturday and apologized for having fled without warning instead of taking the connecting flight to New York.

Arrechaga went on to the film festival to pick up an acting award he was to share with Nunez.

Since 1966, Cubans have been granted automatic residence if they make it to the United States from the communist-ruled island.

## Lady Gaga teacup hits \$50,000 and rising in Japan

TOKYO (AFP) - Fans bidding in a charity online auction to buy a teacup used once by pop diva Lady Gaga had offered more than four million yen (\$50,000) by Tuesday, with five days left before the hammer falls.

The china cup and saucer set was used by the star at a press conference in Tokyo three months after the massive tsunami of March last year swamped a large stretch of coastline.

Lady Gaga told reporters at the time that she would auction the cup, marked with her lipstick and bearing the Japanese

message "We pray for Japan" along with the star's autograph.

All the money raised will be used to help young Japanese artists who want to study in the United States.

The cup was put on "Yahoo! Japan Auctions" at midday Monday, with the starting price of one yen. By Tuesday morning, more than 500 bids had been placed, with the top offer at more than 4.1 million yen. The auction can be followed at <http://page3.auctions.yahoo.co.jp/jp/auction/c323847712>

The songstress visited Japan twice after the disaster and called on tourists from around the world to follow suit.



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**TUESDAY AND FRIDAY: LIVE MUSIC**

## Adorable and affordable; 5 Burgers Aruba offers an island twist to the great American Burger



Rosie and Aaron love their Burger too

Expatriates from Boston, Massachusetts, residing on Aruba, Aaron and Rosie Walisever are living their dream: a home on paradise while welcoming all and sundry to their proud undertaking, 5 Burgers Aruba. Some may be quite well acquainted with a nationally known U.S. franchise bearing the name "5", and patrons can expect the same great quality between the buns, but an expanded menu and Rosie and Aaron's fanatical dedication to giving their customers what they really want has resulted in a unique menu.

"You never get a second chance to make a first impression," comments Aaron; and upon entering 5 Burgers Aruba in The Village Mall in Palm Beach, one is struck by utterly spotless surroundings and a smiling, friendly, attentive service crew. Of course, the main item on the menu is burgers-the way they were meant to be, thick and juicy, made fresh daily and 100%

pure beef, the kind that made the hamburger a traditional American treat.

Prices vary only slightly between regular and small (basically 2 patties or 1) with specialty items such as Gouda Burger, Farmer's Burger, Man Burger (almost 12 ounces of choice beef), and a Western Burger with crispy onion rings and BBQ sauce. All of these can be personalized with an incredible array of toppings, (mushrooms, jalapeño peppers, bacon, cheese, lettuce, tomato...whatever the list goes on) at absolutely no extra cost.

5 Burger portions are ENORMOUS! Aaron suggests that even their small serving of fries, which are made from hand-cut fresh Idaho potatoes, is enough to be shared by two. He was very amused to watch a famous French chef demonstrating the best way to make fried potatoes on a gourmet cooking show and could only comment "He stole my recipe!" Try them the English way-with vinegar, and you'll wonder how you ever ate fries without it. This same 5-star chef also swears by Gouda as the best topping for the ideal gourmet cheeseburger.

If you are a fan of crispy

friend onion rings, as we are at THE MORNING NEWS, you cannot leave there without trying their secret recipe batter-dipped gourmet rings, made from fresh, not frozen onions. Unquestionably, the best we have had anywhere, and for those that like a little spice, the fried jalapeños are a real treat. Aaron and Rosie have expanded their menu to accommodate certain tastes and dietary needs; they offer a tasty grilled chicken sandwich as well.

5 Burgers Aruba is open for lunch & dinner - daily hours are Noon to 10-ish; delivery is available to both the high-rise and low-rise hotel and beach district for orders over \$50. Enjoy a great lunch without ever leaving the beach by calling 586-3904. However, we suggest you stop by and enjoy their au-



Gouda Burger 2

thentic, heartfelt hospitality; it is not unusual for the owners when things are not too busy, to sit and chat while sharing their knowledge of the island. Totally yummy and fun plus a great deal for a quality burger, they are definitely worth a visit

## Problems of rich world's young spreading to poorer countries

PARIS (AFP) - Obesity, boozing and other lifestyle risks facing teenagers in the rich world are spreading fast to counterparts in poorer countries, a probe published on Wednesday in The Lancet said.

"The high-income world has been grappling with a rising tide of risks for non-communicable diseases, including the problems of obesity, physical inactivity, alcohol, tobacco and illicit drug use," it said.

"That tide is now overwhelming many low and middle-income countries who have yet to bring in measures to control the problems of injury, infectious disease and maternal mortality in this young age group."

The medical journal published a study of health problems facing the world's 1.8 billion adolescents, the biggest tally of this age group in human history.

It defines this term as young people aged 10 to 24, at which the brain is considered to have reached physical maturity.

The risks facing young people are many, but often are poorly understood and undocumented, said the review.

They include deaths from road accidents, which are the biggest single cause of death among adolescents, from suicide or teen motherhood, and illness caused by the AIDS virus and substance abuse.

Globally, South Africa has the highest rates of recorded adolescent mortality, according to the inquiry.

Deaths among adolescent males in South Africa are eight times higher than in rich countries. Among females, the rate is 30 times higher.

Among 27 rich countries, the highest mortality rate was in the United States, mainly due to violence and road accidents, followed by New Zealand and then Portugal.

The safest country in the rich league was Singapore, where the adolescent death rate was just a third that of the United States, followed by the Netherlands and Japan.

Social media, too, is not without psychological or emotional risks.

The report noted emerging phenomena such as cyber-bullying or "sexting," the act of sending sexually explicit or pornographic messages by mobile phone.



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## SPORTS

## Football: Messi hat-trick leaves Real needing win for title



Barcelona's Argentinian forward Lionel Messi vies with Malaga's defender Sergio Sanchez (C), Malaga's Portuguese midfielder Eliseu (L) and Malaga's Argentinian defender Martin Demichelis (R)

MADRID (AFP) - A Lionel Messi hat-trick that saw him break Gerd Mueller's record for goals in a single European season inspired Barcelona to a 4-1 win over Malaga on Wednesday.

Messi's tally of 68 is one better than that mustered by Mueller while playing for Bayern Munich in the 1972-

73 season.

Departing Barca coach Pep Guardiola named a strong side as the Catalans attempted to delay Madrid's celebrations as long as possible -- a defeat against fourth-placed Malaga would have handed the title to Madrid without them kicking a ball.

Barcelona went ahead on

13 minutes when Carles Puyol finished from close range after good play on the left from Messi and Andres Iniesta.

Malaga did not sit back and on 26 minutes they were level when Salomon Rondon glanced a header past Jose Pinto -- replacing Victor Valdes in Barca's goal -- from a Jesus Gamez cross.

On 34 minutes Barcelona went back in front as Messi made no mistake from the spot after Iniesta was tripped by Gamez.

Pinto had to block at the feet of Duda just before the interval, but on 58 minutes Messi added his second penalty after Duda had brought him down to make it 3-1.

Messi beat Mueller's record with his third on 64 minutes when Iniesta delivered a defence-splitting pass, leaving the little Argentine to sprint onto the ball and beat the advancing Carlos Kameni in the Malaga goal.

## Football: Coach punches sarcastic player on bench

ROME (AFP) - Fiorentina coach Delio Rossi punched his own player Adem Ljajic during Wednesday's Serie A clash against Novara after taking exception to the midfielder's sarcasm.

With his side losing 2-0 at home to the team second bottom in the league after just half an hour, Rossi decided to act and hauled off Serbian Ljajic to bring on Ruben Olivera.

As he went back to sit in the dug-out, Ljajic sarcastically applauded his coach's decision.

Rossi, 51, took exception to

the player's reaction and leapt into the dug-out and seemed to punch Ljajic, 20, in the face.

The scene continued for several seconds with Rossi seemingly trying to attack his player as Fiorentina officials tried to separate the pair.

A couple of substitutes also tried to calm the situation, pulling Ljajic away from his irate coach.

The referee did not see the incident and neither coach nor player was punished.

But Fiorentina's fans showed exactly whose side they were on by jeering the

young Serb with some shouting: "You're a gypsy".

Rossi, on the other hand, was cheered and clapped.

## Football: Ajax claim 31st Dutch league title

THE HAGUE (AFP) - Ajax secured their 31st Dutch league title by beating VVV-Venlo 2-0 on Wednesday in their penultimate game of the season.

A brace from Siem de Jong gave the four-time European champions their 13th successive league victory and took them six points clear of second-placed Feyenoord.

It is Ajax's second consecutive Dutch title -- the first time they have achieved such a feat since winning three Eredivisie crowns in a row between 1994 and 1996.

It also remarks a remarkable turnaround for Frank de Boer's side, who were eight points behind joint-leaders PSV Eindhoven and AZ Alkmaar in mid-February.

## MLB Standings

American League					National League				
East	W	L	Pct	GB	East	W	L	Pct	GB
TAMPA	16	8	.667	--	WASHINGTON	14	9	.609	--
BALTIMORE	15	9	.625	1.0	ATLANTA	14	10	.583	0.5
YANKEES	13	10	.565	2.5	NY METS	13	11	.542	1.5
TORONTO	13	11	.542	3.0	PHILADELPHIA	12	12	.500	2.5
BOSTON	11	12	.478	4.5	MIAMI	9	14	.391	5.0
Central					Central				
CLEVELAND	11	10	.524	--	ST. LOUIS	15	8	.652	--
CHICAGO	12	11	.522	--	CINCINNATI	11	11	.500	3.5
DETROIT	12	11	.522	--	MILWAUKEE	11	13	.458	4.5
KANSAS	6	16	.273	5.5	PITTSBURG	10	13	.435	5.0
MINNESOTA	6	17	.261	6.0	HOUSTON	10	14	.417	5.5
West					West				
TEXAS	17	7	.708	--	LA DODGERS	17	7	.708	--
OAKLAND	12	13	.480	5.5	ARIZONA	13	11	.542	4.0
SEATTLE	11	14	.440	6.5	SAN FRANCISCO	12	11	.522	4.5
LA ANGELES	9	15	.375	8.0	COLORADO	11	12	.478	5.5
					SAN DIEGO	8	17	.320	9.5

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## Baseball: NBA star's group completes Dodgers purchase

LOS ANGELES (AFP) - A group led by retired NBA icon Magic Johnson completed its purchase of Major League Baseball's Los Angeles Dodgers on Tuesday with the final payment on the record \$2.15 billion sale.

The deal ends the turbulent eight-year Frank McCourt ownership era for one of the sport's flagship franchise and comes less than a year after the team declared bankruptcy last June with McCourt embroiled in a complicated divorce.

Stan Kasten, a former president of the Atlanta Braves

and Washington Nationals, will be the president of the Dodgers. Mark Walter is the controlling owner of the team with former Los Angeles Lakers star Johnson among those with a minority stake in a club that last reached the World Series in 1988.

The Dodgers have the best record in the National League at 16-7 after the first month of the six-month regular season.

"The Dodgers emerge from the Chapter 11 reorganization process having achieved its objective of maximizing the value of the Dodgers through a successful plan of reorganization, under which all claims will be paid," the team said in a statement.

"The Dodgers move forward with confidence -- in a strong financial position, as a premier Major League Baseball franchise and as an integral part of and representative of the Los Angeles community."

McCourt had tried to sell off future broadcast rights to the team for money to help pay his divorce settlement and keep control of the team, but Major League Baseball commission Bud Selig rejected the deal, saying it would rob the club of financial assets it would need to sign talent to be competitive.

Eventually the two sides agreed on a court-ordered compromise that was agreed upon by a US Bankruptcy Court.

McCourt is expected to clear nearly \$1 billion in profit, more than enough to handle the \$131 million divorce payment owed Jamie McCourt, which was made on Monday from Dodgers' sale proceeds, according to the Los Angeles Times.

## Baseball: Pettitte recalls Clemens saying he used HGH

WASHINGTON (AFP) - New York Yankees pitcher Andy Pettitte told jurors in the perjury trial of former teammate Roger Clemens on Tuesday that Clemens admitted to him 12 years ago that he had used human growth hormone.

Pettitte, attempting a baseball comeback with the Yankees at age 39, made a surprise appearance at the perjury trial of Clemens, a retired legend who told a 2008 US Congressional hearing that he never took performance-enhancing drugs.

All that Pettitte said he could recall about the details of the key conversation with Clemens is that Clemens mentioned that he had taken human growth hormones and they



could help him recover from injury.

Pettitte said the remarks came in passing during a workout session between the 1999 and 2000 Major League Baseball seasons.

When presented with a similar statement from Pettitte to Congressional investigators

four years ago at the hearing where he is charged with lying when denying he was a dope cheat, Clemens said Pettitte "misremembered" the remarks.

Pettitte, who retired last year after 16 major league seasons, has admitted that he received human growth hormone (HGH) from Brian McNamee, the trainer who worked with Clemens and Pettitte. Clemens had made no such statement.

Pettitte says he used HGH in 2002 while trying to recover from an injury and that he used it again in 2004.

An earlier trial on the matter last July was declared a mistrial by US District Court Judge Reggie Walton, who is overseeing the current proceedings.

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## Austrian govt to boycott Euro 2012 matches in Ukraine



VIENNA (AFP) - Austria's government said Wednesday it will boycott all Euro 2012 football matches in Ukraine to protest at the treatment of jailed ex-premier Yulia Tymoshenko, who is on hunger strike.

"No member of the Austrian government will attend these games, that is our mark of solidarity," Vice-Chancellor and Foreign Minister Michael Spindelegger said after a cabinet meeting.

Vienna wanted to send Kiev a political signal, he added.

The move follows reports that the German government

was considering boycotting the Ukrainian matches over concerns for Tymoshenko's well-being.

The 51-year-old former Ukrainian premier was controversially jailed for seven years in October on disputed charges and has complained of beatings by prison guards.

Earlier this week, Austrian Chancellor Werner Faymann already announced he would not attend any Euro 2012 games in Ukraine, which is co-hosting the tournament with Poland.

Sports Minister Norbert Darabos has also said he will stay away from a pre-competition friendly match on June 1 between Austria and Ukraine in Innsbruck.

Spindelegger and Darabos however ruled out Austria hosting some Euro 2012 games, following rumours that other countries from the region might step in to replace Ukraine.

Austria was co-host of the 2008 European football championships with Switzerland.

## American Football: Ex NFL star Seau found shot dead

LOS ANGELES (AFP) - Former NFL star Junior Seau died Wednesday of a suspected shooting suicide at his home in California, officials and reports said.

The 43-year-old shot himself in the head at his beachfront home near San Diego, according to the TMZ celebrity news website, while the San Diego Chargers, his former team, voiced shock at "the passing of Junior Seau."

"Everyone at the Chargers is in complete shock and disbelief right now. We ask everyone to stop what they're doing and send their prayers to Junior and his family," it said in a brief statement.

Emergency crews were called to his home at about 9:30 am (1630 GMT), said a police spokesman.

TMZ reported that Seau's girlfriend found his body in a bedroom with a gunshot wound to the head. The former player's mother was hysterical and spoke briefly, saying "Take me. Leave my son alone!" it reported.



The former linebacker - who was selected for the Pro Bowl 12 times and played in

the 1994 SuperBowl for the Chargers - was arrested on suspicion of domestic violence in October 2010, after his 25-year-old girlfriend reported that she was assaulted during an argument.

A few hours after he posted bail his SUV plunged down an ocean side cliff but Seau escaped serious injury.

Seau also played for Miami and New England before retiring in 2009.

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